

REMARKS

Claims 5-10 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claim Amendments:

Claims 5 and 7 have been amended to the same scope as they existed prior to the March 16, 2005 Amendment. Further, Applicant has added new claims 9 and 10, which correspond to the amended claims 5 and 6, after the March 16, 2005 Amendment.

Claim Rejections:

In rejecting the claims (in the December 16, 2004 Final Office Action), the Examiner indicated that claims 5-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph as containing subject matter not adequately described in the specification. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Specifically, in rejecting the present claims, the Examiner has argued that the features of the claimed disc player (in current claims 5-8) are not clearly disclosed or supported by the specification. The Examiner has argued that the specification discloses an audio signal mixer with a microcomputer 5 for control specific audio signal mixing functions, but does not disclose a mixer with specific output signal used for controlling a disc player that performs specific functions as claimed and argued in Applicant's remarks. Applicant respectfully disagrees, and sets forth the following discussions.

To simplify the following discussion, the respective claim terms will be discussed separately below. Further, although the following discussions are directed to claim 5, Applicant submits that these arguments equally apply to claim 7, as the respective claims are similar.

"an outputting part which outputs an audio signal read from a disc;":

This limitation is disclosed, at least, in the third full paragraph on page 5, of the present application.

Specifically, the present application discloses that "[t]he audio signal mixer is provided with four compact disk players (hereinafter simply called the "CD player") 1 - 4 which are operated in response to instructions from a microcomputer 5. Upon reproduction, the respective CD players 1 - 4 output audio signals as reproduced signals." Specification, page 5, para. 5. Thus, Applicant submits that one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that Applicant was in possession of an outputting part which outputs an audio signal that is read from a disc, at the time the present application was filed. A skilled artisan would recognize that a CD player is an example of an output part which outputs a signal read from a disk.

"a memory for storing a designated address position;":

Applicant further submits that this limitation is disclosed, at least, in the paragraph bridging pages 13 and 14 of the present application.

Specifically, this paragraph discloses that "when the knob 17a of the slide-type volume control 17, after moved away from the A-end, has reached the B-end, the reproducing operation by the CD player associated with the channel CHm is stopped in response to the back cue signal, and a pickup (not shown) of the CD player is returned from a currently reading position to a previously specified address position. The previously specified address position has been specified by the user (editor) and stored in a memory or the like." Specification, pages 13-14. Thus, Applicant submits that one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that Applicant was

in possession of a memory for storing a designated address position, at the time the present application was filed.

a controller which performs a control operation to start a reproduction operation when an instruction to start reproduction is received from said mixing apparatus and stop the reproduction operation and to move a pickup to an address position stored in said memory to stand by when an instruction to stop reproduction is received from said mixing apparatus.

Applicant submits that this limitation is disclosed, at least, on pages 15 and 17 of the present application.

The present specification indicates that "[w]hen the knob 17a of the slide-type volume control 17 is moved away from the A-end, the CD player 2 is supplied with a start signal to cause the CD player 2 to output an audio signal of the channel CH2." Specification, page 15. Further, the specification also indicates that when "the CD player 1 is supplied with a back cue signal, the CD player 1 stops its reproducing operation, with the pickup thereof returned from its current reading position to the previously specified address position, to enter a waiting state."

Specification, page 17. In view of, at least, the foregoing disclosure Applicant submits that a skilled artisan would recognize that Applicant possessed this aspect of the present application, at the time the present application was filed. Namely, a skilled artisan would recognize that the Applicant was in possession of a disk player which has a controller for conducting a control operation, as claimed. Specifically a skilled artisan would recognize that, in the present application, a disc player starts a reproduction operation when an instruction to start a reproduction is received from a mixing apparatus. Further, it would be also recognized that Applicant was in possession of having a disc player stop the reproduction operation and move a pickup to an address position stored in a memory to stand by, when an instruction to stop is

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received from a mixing apparatus. *See* Specification, pages 15 and 17. Thus, a skilled artisan would recognize the presence of such a controller to facilitate the claimed invention.

In view of the forgoing discussion, Applicant submits that a skilled artisan would recognize that Applicant was in possession of the claimed invention, as set forth in each of claims 5-8, at the time the present application was filed. Accordingly, Applicant hereby requests the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the above 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph rejection.

Claims 9 and 10:

Applicant also requests the Examiner enter and consider new claims 9 and 10.

Conclusion:

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

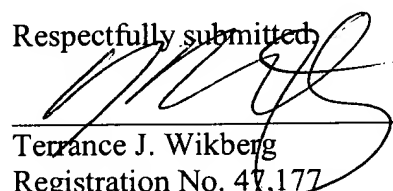
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Respectfully submitted,


Terrance J. Wikberg
Registration No. 47,177